



CITY OF TUCSON



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NEWS RELEASE

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GRAFFITI INVESTIGATION AND ARREST

On the morning of February 16, 2012, just before 7:00 a.m., officers from the Tucson Police Department responded to a residence located at 3745 East Blacklidge in order to serve a search warrant at the location. Members of the Graffiti Unit as well as other investigative personnel had conducted an extensive investigation into numerous acts of graffiti vandalism that occurred over a time frame of approximately 8 months. Police personnel developed information indicating that the primary focus, a 19-year old male (originally described as 20-years of age), of the investigation resided at the home. As such, they obtained a search warrant to locate him and secure any items of evidentiary value. Members of the Tucson Police Department SWAT team assisted the Graffiti Unit and other police personnel in serving the search warrant. They located an adult male, positively identified as the focus of their investigation, and an adult female, later identified as his mother, inside of the residence. Both were taken into custody. Numerous items of evidentiary value were located inside of the residence as well. A small amount of marijuana and narcotic paraphernalia were also found in the residence.

Cody Bledsoe (19-years old), identified as the focus of the investigation, was implicated in **an excess of 100 acts of graffiti vandalism** that occurred over the last 8 months. His vandalism included **etching, primarily on glass**, and **traditional “tagging” using paint, markers, and other mediums**. The crimes were not centralized to one area of the city, instead occurring in numerous areas around town. There was also indication that he may have engaged in some of the graffiti activity as part of a “tagging crew.” Mr. Bledsoe was ultimately arrested for **2 counts of Criminal Damage (1 count associated with the etching and 1 count associated with the traditional “tagging”)**, **1 count of Unlawful Possession of Marijuana**, and **1 count of Unlawful Possession of Narcotic Paraphernalia**, all felony offenses. His mother, **Elizabeth Bledsoe (37-years old)**, was arrested for **1 count of Unlawful Possession of Marijuana and 1 count of Unlawful Possession of Narcotic Paraphernalia, a Class 1 Misdemeanor**. Their booking photographs are included below.

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Cody Bledsoe



Elizabeth Bledsoe

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